

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04095 161846Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

INRE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7309

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO

S E C R E T GENEVA 04095

EXDIS

USSALTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON PLENARY, MARCH 16, 1978 (SALT TWO-1660)

REF: SALT TWO-1661

1. AT MARCH 16 PLENARY, US MADE NO FORMAL STATEMENT.
2. SEMENOV'S STATEMENT (REFTEL) RESTATED SOVIET POSITION ON NEW TYPES OF SLBMS AND ICBMS. IN ONLY NEW ELEMENT, SEMENOV STATED THAT SS-N-17 IS EXPERIMENTAL MISSILE WITH WHICH ONLY ONE SUBMARINE IS EQUIPPED AND "DEPLOYMENT OF THESE MISSILES IN THE FUTURE IS NOT ENVISAGED."
3. IN POST-PLENARY DISCUSSION SEMENOV REPEATED SUBSTANCE OF HIS STATEMENT. WARNKE SAID PROPOSED EXCEPTION FOR SINGLE RV ICBM GAVE US GREAT DIFFICULTY, AND NOTED THAT SOVIET SLBM NEW TYPES PROPOSAL DID NOT IN FACT PROVIDE ANY CONSTRAINTS. SEMENOV CRITICIZED US FOR FOCUSING

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PARTICULARLY ON ICBMS. I REVIEWED WHY US CONSIDERED THEM MORE DESTABILIZING AND POINTED OUT THAT THEIR SPECIAL STATUS WAS ACKNOWLEDGED IN 820 SUBLIMIT.

4. LTC JOHNSON/BEKETOV - JOURAVLEV BILATERAL. BEKETOV SAID TYPHOON SSBN WAS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. BEKETOV INITIATED DISCUSSION OF SOVIET ANTISHIP CRUISE MISSILES

AND, USING SS-N-3 AS EXAMPLE, SAID NO SUCH MISSILES HAD MAXIMUM RANGE (TO FUEL DEPLETION) IN EXCESS OF 600 KM. JOURAVLEV SAID SAME CASE WAS TRUE FOR EXISTING SOVIET AIR-TO-SURFACE CRUISE MISSILES. SOVIETS PRESSED FOR NUMERICAL EXAMPLE OF DELTA OR RANGE LIMIT IN EXCESS OF 2500 KM WHICH WOULD INDICATE ADDITIONAL FUEL CAPACITY US REQUIRED TO EFFECTIVELY ENGAGE TARGET UNDER US DEFINITION. JOURAVLEV ASKED IF 10, 20 OR 200 PERCENT OR 3000 KM, AS EXAMPLES, WOULD BE SUFFICIENT. JOHNSON DECLINED TO ANSWER.

5. RAMEE - JOHNSON/PAVLICHENKO BILATERAL. PAVLICHENKO CONFIRMED THAT SS-N-17 LAUNCHERS ON UNIQUE SUBMARINE MENTIONED IN SEMENOV'S STATEMENT TODAY ARE INCLUDED IN THE SOVIET DATA BASE NUMBER OF 950 SLBM LAUNCHERS. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THESE LAUNCHERS WOULD BE CANDIDATES FOR DISMANTLING AND DESTRUCTION.

6. DR. JOHNSON/SHCHUKIN BILATERAL. SHCHUKIN COMPLAINED ABOUT ARTICLE ON SALT IN HERALD TRIBUNE MARCH 15 (BURT ON DATA BASE). HE COMMENTED ARTICLE CONTAINED DETAILS OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH EVEN HE SOMETIMES FORGOT.

7. NEXT PLENARY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 23. EARLE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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